

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Food and Drug Administration

[Docket No. 00N-1534]

DMB

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**Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request;
Year 2000 Continuation of National Surveys of Prescription Drug Information
Provided to Patients**

AGENCY: Food and Drug Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (the PRA), Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, and to allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on a national tracking survey, conducted every 2 years, of prescription drug information received by patients.

DATES: Submit written or electronic comments on the collection of information by *[insert date 60 days after date of publication in the Federal Register]*.

ADDRESSES: Submit electronic comments on the collection of information to <http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/oc/dockets/edockethome.cfm>. Submit written comments on the collection of information to the Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852. All comments should be identified with the docket number found in brackets in the heading of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karen L. Nelson, Office of Information Resources Management (HFA-250), Food and Drug Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857, 301-827-1482.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. “Collection of information” is defined in 44 U.S.C. 3502(3) and 5 CFR 1320.3(c) and includes agency requests or requirements that members of the public submit reports, keep records, or provide information to a third party. Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)) requires Federal agencies to provide a 60-day notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information before submitting the collection to OMB for approval. To comply with this requirement, FDA is publishing notice of the proposed collection of information set forth in this document.

With respect to the following collection of information, FDA invites comments on: (1) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of FDA’s functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of FDA’s estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques, when appropriate, and other forms of information technology.

Year 2000 Continuation of National Surveys of Prescription Drug Information Provided to Patients

FDA implements the provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the act) designed to ensure the adequate labeling of prescription (Rx) drugs. Under section 502(a) of the act (21 U.S.C. 352(a)), a drug product is misbranded if its labeling is false or misleading in any particular, and under section 201(n) of the act (21 U.S.C. 321(n)), a drug’s labeling is misleading if its labeling or advertising fails to reveal material facts. FDA also has the authority to collect this information under Title VI of Public Law 104–180 (Related Agencies and Food and Drug Administration) section 601 (Effective Medication Guides), which directs the development of “a

mechanism to assess periodically * * * the frequency with which the [oral and written prescription] information is provided to consumers.”

To ensure that Rx drugs are not misbranded, FDA has historically asserted that adequate labeling requires certain information be provided to patients. In 1982, when FDA revoked a planned initiative to require mandatory patient package inserts for all Rx drugs in favor of private sector initiatives, the agency indicated that it will periodically conduct surveys to evaluate the availability of adequate patient information on a nationwide basis. In addition, FDA has been responsible for setting and tracking Healthy People 2000 goals and now for Healthy People 2010 goals for the receipt of medication information by patients.

Surveys of consumers about their receipt of Rx drug information were carried out in 1982, 1984, 1992, 1994, 1996, and 1998. This notice is in regard to conducting the survey in the year 2000.

The survey is conducted by telephone on a national random sample of adults who received a new prescription for themselves or a household member within the past 4 weeks. The interview assesses the extent to which oral and written information were received from the doctor, the pharmacist, and other sources. Survey respondents are also asked attitudinal questions, and demographic and other background characteristics are obtained. The survey enables FDA to determine the frequency with which such information is provided to consumers. Without this information, the agency would be unable to assess the degree to which adequate patient information and counseling about Rx drugs is provided.

Respondents to this collection of information are adults (18 years or older) in the continental United States who have obtained a new (nonrefill) prescription at a pharmacy for themselves or a member of their household in the last 4 weeks.

FDA estimates the burden of this collection of information as follows:

TABLE 1.—ESTIMATED ANNUAL REPORTING BURDEN:¹ Screener

Year	No. of Respondents	Annual Frequency per Response	Total Annual Responses	Hours per Response	Total Hours
2000	9,643	1	9,643	.03	289

¹There are no capital costs or operating and maintenance costs associated with this collection of information.

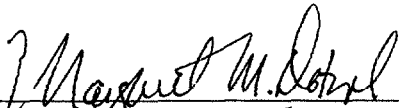
TABLE 2.—ANNUAL REPORTING BURDEN:¹ Survey

Year	No. of Respondents	Annual Frequency per Response	Total Annual Responses	Hours per Response	Total Hours
2000	1,000	1	1,000	.32	320

¹There are no capital costs or operating and maintenance costs associated with this collection of information.

This total estimate of 609 total annual burden hours is based on the 1998 survey administration, in which 9,643 potential respondents were contacted to obtain 1,000 interviews.

Dated: October 2, 2000



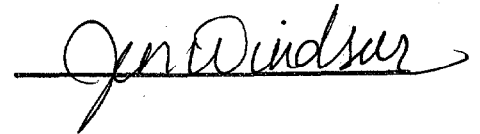
Margaret M. Dotzel

Associate Commissioner for Policy

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J. Windsor